

**§ 734.6 Assistance available from BIS for determining licensing and other requirements.**

(a) If you are not sure whether a commodity, software, technology, or activity is subject to the EAR, or is subject to licensing or other requirements under the EAR, you may ask BIS for an advisory opinion, classification, or a determination whether a particular item or activity is subject to the EAR. In many instances, including those where the item is specially designed, developed, configured, adapted, or modified for military application, the item may fall under the licensing jurisdiction of the Department of State and may be subject to the controls of the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (22 CFR parts 120 through 130) (ITAR). In order to determine if the Department of State has licensing jurisdiction over an item, you should submit a request for a commodity jurisdiction determination to the Department of State, Directorate of Defense Trade Controls. Exporters should note that in a very limited number of cases, the categories of items may be subject to both the ITAR and the EAR. The relevant departments are working to eliminate any unnecessary overlaps that may exist.

(b) As the agency responsible for administering the EAR, BIS is the only agency that has the responsibility for determining whether an item or activity is subject to the EAR and, if so, what licensing or other requirements apply under the EAR. Such a determination only affects EAR requirements, and does not affect the applicability of any other regulatory programs.

(c) If you need help in determining BIS licensing or other requirements you may ask BIS for help by following the procedures described in § 748.3 of the EAR.

**§ 734.7 Published information and software.**

(a) Information is “published” when it becomes generally accessible to the interested public in any form, including:

(1) Publication in periodicals, books, print, electronic, or any other media available for general distribution to

any member of the public or to a community of persons interested in the subject matter, such as those in a scientific or engineering discipline, either free or at a price that does not exceed the cost of reproduction and distribution (See Supplement No. 1 to this part, Questions A(1) through A(6));

(2) Ready availability at libraries open to the public or at university libraries (See Supplement No. 1 to this part, Question A(6));

(3) Patents and open (published) patent applications available at any patent office; and

(4) Release at an open conference, meeting, seminar, trade show, or other open gathering.

(i) A conference or gathering is “open” if all technically qualified members of the public are eligible to attend and attendees are permitted to take notes or otherwise make a personal record (not necessarily a recording) of the proceedings and presentations.

(ii) All technically qualified members of the public may be considered eligible to attend a conference or other gathering notwithstanding a registration fee reasonably related to cost and reflecting an intention that all interested and technically qualified persons be able to attend, or a limitation on actual attendance, as long as attendees either are the first who have applied or are selected on the basis of relevant scientific or technical competence, experience, or responsibility (See Supplement No. 1 to this part, Questions B(1) through B(6)).

(iii) “Publication” includes submission of papers to domestic or foreign editors or reviewers of journals, or to organizers of open conferences or other open gatherings, with the understanding that the papers will be made publicly available if favorably received. (See Supplement No. 1 to this part, Questions A(1) and A(3)).

(b) Software and information is published when it is available for general distribution either for free or at a price that does not exceed the cost of reproduction and distribution. See Supplement No. 1 to this part, Questions G(1) through G(3).

(c) Notwithstanding paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section, note that published encryption software classified under ECCN 5D002 on the Commerce Control List (Supplement No. 1 to part 774 of the EAR) remains subject to the EAR, except publicly available encryption object code software classified under ECCN 5D002 when the corresponding source code meets the criteria specified in § 740.13(e) of the EAR. See § 740.13(e) of the EAR for eligibility requirements for exports and reexports of publicly available encryption source code under License Exception TSU.

[61 FR 12746, Mar. 25, 1996, as amended at 61 FR 65464, Dec. 13, 1996; 61 FR 68578, Dec. 30, 1996; 65 FR 2496, Jan. 14, 2000; 67 FR 38861, June 6, 2002; 76 FR 1062, Jan. 7, 2011]

**§ 734.8 Information resulting from fundamental research.**

(a) *Fundamental research.* Paragraphs (b) through (d) of this section and § 734.11 of this part provide specific rules that will be used to determine whether research in particular institutional contexts qualifies as “fundamental research”. The intent behind these rules is to identify as “fundamental research” basic and applied research in science and engineering, where the resulting information is ordinarily published and shared broadly within the scientific community. Such research can be distinguished from proprietary research and from industrial development, design, production, and product utilization, the results of which ordinarily are restricted for proprietary reasons or specific national security reasons as defined in § 734.11(b) of this part. (See Supplement No. 1 to this part, Question D(8)). Note that the provisions of this section do not apply to encryption software classified under ECCN 5D002 on the Commerce Control List (Supplement No. 1 to part 774 of the EAR), except publicly available encryption object code software classified under ECCN 5D002 when the corresponding source code meets the criteria specified in § 740.13(e) of the EAR. See § 740.13(e) of the EAR for eligibility requirements for exports and reexports of publicly available encryption source code under License Exception TSU.

(b) *University based research.* (1) Research conducted by scientists, engi-

neers, or students at a university normally will be considered fundamental research, as described in paragraphs (b) (2) through (6) of this section. (“University” means any accredited institution of higher education located in the United States.)

(2) Prepublication review by a sponsor of university research solely to insure that the publication would not inadvertently divulge proprietary information that the sponsor has furnished to the researchers does not change the status of the research as fundamental research. However, release of information from a corporate sponsor to university researchers where the research results are subject to prepublication review, is subject to the EAR. (See Supplement No. 1 to this part, Questions D(7), D(9), and D(10).)

(3) Prepublication review by a sponsor of university research solely to ensure that publication would not compromise patent rights does not change the status of fundamental research, so long as the review causes no more than a temporary delay in publication of the research results.

(4) The initial transfer of information from an industry sponsor to university researchers is subject to the EAR where the parties have agreed that the sponsor may withhold from publication some or all of the information so provided. (See Supplement No. 1 to this part, Question D(2).)

(5) University based research is not considered “fundamental research” if the university or its researchers accept (at the request, for example, of an industrial sponsor) other restrictions on publication of scientific and technical information resulting from the project or activity. Scientific and technical information resulting from the research will nonetheless qualify as fundamental research once all such restrictions have expired or have been removed. (See Supplement No. 1 to this part, Question D(7) and D(9).)

(6) The provisions of § 734.11 of this part will apply if a university or its researchers accept specific national security controls (as defined in § 734.11 of this part) on a research project or activity sponsored by the U.S. Government. (See Supplement No. 1 to this part, Questions E(1) and E(2).)